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- They turn their heads to sea, their *sterns* to land. *Dryd.*  
 2. Post of management; direction.  
 The king from Eltam I intend to send,  
 And sit at chiefest *stern* of publick weal. *Shakef. H. VI.*  
 3. The hinder part of any thing.  
 She all at once her beasty body raised,  
 With doubled forces high above the ground,  
 Though wrapping up her wreathed *stern* around. *Fa. Queen.*  
*STERNAGE. n. f.* [from *stern*.] The steerage or stern. Not used.  
 Grapple your minds to *sternage* of this navy,  
 And leave your England as dead midnight still. *Shakespeare.*  
*STERNLY. adj.* [from *stern*.] In a stern manner; severely; truculently.  
*Sternly* he pronounc'd *Milton's Parad. Lost.*  
 The rigid interdiction. *Milton's Parad. Lost.*  
 Yet sure thou art not, nor thy face the same,  
 Nor thy limbs moulded in so soft a frame;  
 Thou look'st more *sternly*, do'st more strongly move,  
 And more of awe thou bear'st, and less of love. *Dryden.*  
*STERNNESS. n. f.* [from *stern*.]  
 1. Severity of look.  
 Of stature huge, and eke of courage bold,  
 That sons of men amaz'd their *sternness* to behold. *Spenser.*  
 How would he look to see his work so noble  
 Wildly bound up! or how  
 Should I, in these my borrow'd haunts, behold  
 The *sternness* of his presence! *Shakespeare.*  
 2. Severity or harshness of manners.  
 I have *sternness* in my soul enough  
 To hear of soldiers work. *Dryden's Cleomenes.*  
*STERNON. n. f.* [from *sternon*.] The breast-bone.  
 A soldier was shot in the breast through the *sternon*. *Wiseham.*  
*STERNUTATION. n. f.* [from *sternutatio*, Latin.] The act of sneezing.  
*Sternutation* is a convulsive shaking of the nerves and muscles, first occasioned by an irritation of those in the nostrils. *Quincy.*  
 Concerning *sternutation*, or sneezing, and the custom of saluting upon that motion, it is generally believed to derive its original from a disease wherein *sternutation* proved mortal, and such as sneezed died. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*  
*STERNUTATIVE. adj.* [from *sternutatio*, Fr. from *sternuto*, Lat.] Having the quality of sneezing.  
*STERNUTATORY. n. f.* [from *sternutatoire*, Fr. from *sternuto*, Lat.] Medicine that provokes to sneeze.  
 Physicians, in persons near death, use *sternutatories*, or such medicines as provoke unto sneezing; when if the faculty arise, and *sternutation* ensue, they conceive hopes of life. *Brown.*  
*STEVEN. n. f.* [from *stēven*, Saxon.] A cry, or loud clamour.  
 Ne sooner was out, but swifter than thought,  
 Fle by the hide, the wolf Lowder caught;  
 And had not Rosly renne to the *steven*,  
 Lowder had been slain thilke same even. *Spenser.*  
 To *STEVEN. v. a.* [from *stēven*, French; *stēven*, Dutch.]  
 To seeth any thing in a flow moist heat.  
 Ere I was risen from the place, that shew'd  
 My duty kneeling, came a reeking post,  
 Scow'd in his haste, half breathless. *Shakef. King Lear.*  
 I bruised my skin with playing at sword and dagger with a master of fence, three venes for a dish of stew'd prunes. *Shak.*  
 To *STEVEN. v. u.* To be seethed in a flow moist heat.  
*STEVE. n. f.* [from *stēve*, French; *stēve*, Italian; *stēve*, Spanish.]  
 1. A bagno; a hot-house.  
 As burning *Etna* from his boiling *stew*  
 Doth belch out flames, and rocks in pieces broke,  
 And ragged ribs of mountains molten new,  
 Enwrap in coal-black clouds and filthy smoke. *Fa. Queen.*  
 The Lydians were inhibited by Cyrus to use any armour, and give themselves to baths and *stews*. *Abbot.*  
 2. A brothel; a house of prostitution. [This signification is by some imputed to this, that there were licensed brothels near the *stew* or fishponds in Southwark; but probably *stew*, like bagno, took a bad signification from bad use.]  
 There be that hate harlots, and never were at the *stews*; that abhor falsehood, and never brake promise. *Ascham.*  
 My business in this state  
 Made me a looker-on here in Vienna,  
 Where I have seen corruption boil and bubble,  
 Till it o'er-run the *stew*. *Shakespeare.*  
 With them there are no *stews*, no dissolute houses, no curtelans. *Bacon's New Atlantis.*  
 Her, though seven years she in the *stews* had laid,  
 A nunner's curt receive and think a maid  
 And though in childbirth's labour she did lie,  
 Midwives would swear 'twere but a tympany. *Donne.*  
 What moderate top would rake the park or *stews*,  
 Who among troops of faultless nymphs can chuse? *Rescom.*  
 Making his own house a *stew*, a bordel, and a school of lewdness, to instill the rudiments of vice into the unwary flexible years of his poor children. *South's Sermons.*

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3. [from *staven*, Dutch, to flore.] A storepond; a small pond where fish are kept for the table.  
*STEWARD. n. f.* [from *steward*, Saxon.]  
 1. One who manages the affairs of another.  
 There sat yelad in red,  
 Down to the ground, a comely personage,  
 That in his hand a white rod managed;  
 He *steward* was, light diet, ripe of age,  
 And in demeanour sober, and in council sage. *Fa. Queen.*  
 Whilst I have gold, I'll be his *steward* still. *Shak. Timon.*  
 Take on you the charge  
 And kingly government of this your land;  
 Not as protector, *steward*, substitute,  
 Or lowly factor for another's gain. *Shakef. Richard III.*  
 How is it that I hear this of thee? Give an account of thy stewardship; for thou mayest be no longer *steward*. *Lu. xvi.*  
 When a *steward* defrauds his lord, he must connive at the rest of the servants while they are following the same practice. *Swift.*  
 What can be a greater honour than to be chosen one of the *stewards* and dispensers of God's bounty to mankind? Whom can give a generous spirit more complacency than to consider, that great numbers owe to him, under God, their subsistence, and the good conduct of their lives? *Swift.*  
 2. An officer of state.  
 The duke of Suffolk is the first, and claims  
 To be high *steward*. *Shakespeare.*  
*STEWARDSHIP. n. f.* [from *steward*.] The office of a steward.  
 The earl of Worcester  
 Hath broke his staff, resign'd his *stewardship*. *Shakef. R. II.*  
 Shew us the hand of God  
 That hath dismiss'd us from our *stewardship*. *Shakespeare.*  
 If they are not employed to such purposes, we are false to our trust, and the *stewardship* committed to us, and shall be one day severely accountable to God for it. *Celony's Sermons.*  
*STIBIAL. adj.* [from *stibium*, Latin.] Antimonial.  
 The former depend upon a corrupt incinerated melancholy, and the latter upon an adust *stibial* or eruginous sulphur. *Harr.*  
*STICADOS. n. f.* [from *sticadus*, Latin.] An herb. *Amman.*  
*STICK. n. f.* [from *sticca*, Saxon; *sticca*, Italian; *stick*, Dutch.] A piece of wood small and long.  
 Onions as they hang will shoot forth, and so will the herb orpin, with which in the country they trim their houses, binding it to a lath or *stick* set against a wall. *Vaen's Nat. History.*  
 Some strike from clashing flints their fiery feed,  
 Some gather *sticks* the kindled flames to feed. *Dryden.*  
 To *STICK. v. a.* preterite *stuck*; participle pass. *stuck*. [from *stican*, Saxon.] To fasten on so as that it may adhere.  
 Two troops in fair array one moment shew'd;  
 The next, a field with fallen bodies shew'd;  
 The points of spears are *stuck* within the shield,  
 The steeds without their riders scour the field,  
 The knights unhors'd. *Dryden.*  
 Would our ladies, instead of *sticking* on a patch against their country, sacrifice their necklaces against the common enemy, what decrees ought not to be made in their favour? *Addison.*  
 Oh for some pedant reign,  
 Some gentle James to bless the land again;  
 To *stick* the doctor's chair unto the throne,  
 Give law to words, or war with words alone. *Pope.*  
 To *STICK. v. n.*  
 1. To adhere; to unite itself by its tenacity or penetrating power.  
 I will cause the fish of thy rivers to *stick* unto thy scales. *Ez.*  
 The green caterpillar breedeth in the inward parts of roses not blown, where the dew *sticketh*. *Vaen.*  
 Though the sword be put into the sheath, we must not suffer it there to rust, or *stick* so fast as that we shall not be able to draw it readily, when need requires. *Raleigh.*  
 2. To be inseparable; to be united with any thing. Generally in an ill sense.  
 Now does he feel  
 His secret murders *sticking* on his hands. *Shakef. Medeb.*  
 He is often stigmatized with it, as a note of infamy, to *stick* by him whilst the world lasts. *Samuelson.*  
 In their quarrels they proceed to calling names, 'till they light upon one that is sure to *stick*. *Swift.*  
 3. To rest upon the memory painfully.  
 The going away of that which had staid so long, doth yet *stick* with me. *Bacon's Natural History.*  
 4. To stop; to lose motion.  
 I shudder at the name!  
 My blood runs backward, and my faulting tongue  
*Sticks* at the sound. *Smith's Phœdra and Hippolytus.*  
 Wherefore could I not pronounce amen?  
 I had most need of blessing, and amen  
*Stuck* in my throat. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*  
 5. To resist emission.  
 Let them go to't, and *stickle*,  
 Whether a conclave, or a convexicle. *Cleveland.*

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6. To be constant; to adhere with firmness.  
 The knave will *stick* by thee, I can assure thee that: he will not out, he is true bred. *Shakespeare's Henry IV.*  
 The first contains a *sticking* fast to Christ, when the Christian profession is persecuted; and the second a rising from sin, as he rose, to a new Christian life. *Hammoud.*  
 Some *stick* to you, and some to t'other side.  
 They could not but conclude, that to be their interest, and being so convinced, pursue it and *stick* to it. *Tillotson.*  
 The advantage will be on our side, if we *stick* to its essentials. *Addison's Freeholder.*  
 7. To be troublesome by adhering.  
 I am fatisfied to trifle away my time, rather than let it *stick* by me. *Pope's Letters.*  
 8. To remain; not to be lost.  
 Proverbial sentences are formed into a verse, whereby they *stick* upon the memory. *Watts.*  
 9. To dwell upon; not to forsake.  
 If the matter be knotty, the mind must stop and buckle to it, and *stick* upon it with labour and thought, and not leave it 'till it has mastered the difficulty. *Locke.*  
 Every man, besides occasional affections, has beloved studies which the mind will more closely *stick* to. *Locke.*  
 10. To cause difficulties or scruple.  
 This is the difficulty that *sticks* with the most reasonable of those who, from conscience, refuse to join with the Revolution. *Swift.*  
 11. To scruple; to hesitate.  
 It is a good point of cunning for a man to shape the answer he would have in his own words and propositions; for it makes the other party *stick* the less. *Vaen.*  
 The church of Rome, under pretext of exposition of Scripture, doth not *stick* to add and alter. *Bacon.*  
 Rather than impute our miscarriages to our own corruption, we do not *stick* to arraign providence itself. *L'Esrange.*  
 Every one without hesitation supposes eternity, and *sticks* not to ascribe infinity to duration. *Locke.*  
 That two bodies cannot be in the same place is a truth that no body any more *sticks* at, than at this maxim, that it is impossible for the same thing to be, and not to be. *Locke.*  
 To *stick* at nothing for the publick interest is represented as the refined part of the Venetian wisdom. *Addison on Italy.*  
 Some *stick* not to say, that the parson and attorney forged a will. *Arbutnot.*  
 12. To be flopped; to be unable to proceed.  
 If we should fail.  
 — We fail!  
 But screw your courage to the *sticking* place,  
 And we'll not fail. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*  
 They never doubted the commons; but heard all *stuck* in the lord's house, and desired the names of those who hindered the agreement between the lords and commons. *Clarendon.*  
 He threw: the trembling weapon pass'd  
 Through nine bull-hides, each under other plac'd  
 On his broad shield, and *stuck* within the last. *Dryden.*  
 13. To be embarrassed; to be puzzled.  
 Where they *stick*, they are not to be farther puzzled by putting them up on finding it out themselves. *Locke.*  
 They will *stick* long at part of a demonstration, for want of perceiving the connexion of two ideas, that, to one more exercised, is as visible as anything. *Locke.*  
 Souls a little more capacious can take in the connexion of a few propositions; but if the chain be prolix, here they *stick* and are confounded. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*  
 14. To *STICK out.* To be prominent with deformity.  
 His flesh is consumed away that it cannot be seen, and his bones that were not seen *stick out*. *Job xxxiii. 21.*  
 15. To *STICK out.* To be unemployed.  
 To *STICK. v. a.* [from *stican*, Saxon; *stican*, Dutch.]  
 1. To stab; to pierce with a pointed instrument.  
 The Heruli, when their old kindred fell sick, *stuck* them with a dagger. *Greco.*  
 2. To fix upon a pointed body.  
 3. To fasten by transfixion.  
 Her death!  
 I'll stand betwixt: it first shall pierce my heart:  
 We will be *stuck* together on his dart. *Dryd. Tyrant. Love.*  
 4. To set with something point d.  
 A lofty pile they rear;  
 The fabric's front with cypress twi's they strew,  
 And *stick* the sides with boughs of baleful yew. *Dryden.*  
*STICKINESS. n. f.* [from *sticken*.] Adhesive quality; viscosity; glutinousness; tenacity.  
 To *STICKLE. v. n.* [from the practice of prizefighters, who placed seconds with flaves or *stickles* to interpose occasionally.]  
 To take part with one side or other.  
 Fortune, as the's wont, turn'd *stickle*,  
 And for the foe began to *stickle*. *Hudibras.*  
 2. To censure; to allocate; to contend rather with obstinacy than vehemence.  
 Let them go to't, and *stickle*,  
 Whether a conclave, or a convexicle. *Cleveland.*

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- Heralds *stickle*, who got who,  
 So many hundred years ago. *Hudibras.*  
 3. To trim; to play fast and loose; to act a part between opposites.  
 When he sees half of the Christians killed, and the rest in a fair way of being routed, he *stickles* betwixt the remainder of God's host and the race of fiends. *Dryden's Jew. Dedication.*  
*STICKLEBAG. n. f.* [Properly *stickleback*, from *stick*, to prick.] The smallest of fresh-water fish.  
 A little fish called a *sticklebag*, without scales, hath his body fenced with several prickles. *Watson's Angler.*  
*STICKLER. n. f.* [from *stickle*.]  
 1. A fideleman to fence; a second to a duellist; one who stands to judge a combat.  
 Banius came to part them, the *stickler's* authority being unable to persuade choleric hearers; and part them he did. *Swift.*  
 Banius, the judge, appointed *sticklers* and trumpets, whom the others should obey. *Sidney.*  
 Our former chiefs, like *sticklers* of the war,  
 First fought 't inflame the parties, then to poise:  
 The quarrel lov'd, but did the cause abhor;  
 And did not strike to hurt, but made a noise. *Dryden.*  
 2. An obstinate contender about any thing.  
 Quercetanus, though the grand *stickler* for the *tria prima*, has this concession of the irresolubleness of diamonds. *Boyle.*  
 The inferior tribe of common women have, in most reigns, been the professed *sticklers* for such as have acted against the true interest of the nation. *Addison's Freeholder.*  
 The tory or high church clergy were the greatest *sticklers* against the exorbitant proceedings of king James II. *Swift.*  
 All place themselves in the list of the national church, though they are great *sticklers* for liberty of conscience. *Swift.*  
*STICKY. adj.* [from *stick*.] Viscous; adhesive; glutinous.  
 Herbs which last longest are those of strong smell and with a *sticky* stalk. *Bacon's Natural History.*  
*STIFF. adj.* [from *stiff*, Saxon; *stiff*, Danish; *stif*, Swedish; *stifur*, Icelandic; *stif*, Dutch.]  
 1. Rigid; inflexible; resisting flexure; not flaccid; not limber; not easily flexible; not pliant.  
 They rising on *stiff* pinions tower  
 The mid aerial sky. *Milton.*  
 The glittering robe  
 Hung floating loose, or *stiff* with mazy gold. *Thomson.*  
 2. Not soft; not giving way; not fluid; not easily yielding to the touch.  
 Still less and less my boiling spirits flow;  
 And I grow *stiff* as cooling metals do. *Dryd. Indian Emp.*  
 Mingling with that oily liquor, they were wholly incorporated, and so grew more *stiff* and firm, making but one substance. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*  
 3. Strong; not easily resisted.  
 On a *stiff* gale  
 The Theban swan extends his wings. *Deubam.*  
 4. Hardy; stubborn; not easily subdued.  
 How *stiff* is my vile sense,  
 That I stand up, and have ingenious feeling  
 Of my huge sorrows! Better I were distracted! *Shakespeare.*  
 5. Obstinate; pertinacious.  
 We neither allow unmet nor purpose the *stiff* defence of any unnecessary custom heretofore received. *Hooker.*  
 Yield to others when there is cause; but it is a shame to stand *stiff* in a foolish argument. *Taylor.*  
 A war ensues, the Cretans own their cause,  
*Stiff* to defend their hospitable laws. *Dryden.*  
 6. Harsh; not written with ease; constrained.  
 7. Formal; rigorous in certain ceremonies; not disengaged in behaviour; starched; affected.  
 The French are open, familiar, and talkative; the Italians *stiff*, ceremonious, and reserved. *Addison on Italy.*  
 8. In *Shakespeare* it seems to mean strongly maintained, or asserted with good evidence.  
 This is *stiff* news. *Shakespeare.*  
 To *STIFFEN. v. a.* [from *stiffen*, Saxon.]  
 1. To make stiff; to make inflexible; to make unpliant.  
 When the blast of war blows in our ears,  
 Stiffen the sinews, summon up the blood,  
 Disguise fair nature with hard favour'd rage. *Shakef. H. V.*  
 He *stiffened* his neck, and hardened his heart from turning unto the Lord. *2 Chron. xxxvi. 13.*  
 The poor, by them disrobed, naked lie,  
 Veil'd with no other covering but the sky;  
 Expos'd to *stiff'ning* frosts, and drenching showers,  
 Which thicken'd air from her black bosom pours. *Sandys.*  
 Her eyes grow *stiffen'd*, and with sulphur burn. *Dryden.*  
 2. To make obstinate.  
 Her *stiff'ning* grief,  
 Who flew her children slaughter'd all at once,  
 Was dull to mine. *Dryden and Lee.*  
 To *STIFFEN. v. n.*  
 1. To grow stiff; to grow rigid; to become unpliant.  
 A shaft, astonish'd, and struck dumb with fear,  
 I stood; like bristles rose my *stiff'ning* hair. *Dryden.*  
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